

Dear employees:

Today I signed the city's Family and Adoptive Leave Bill. This legislation helps accomplish one of my top priorities - building strong families and healthy communities.

The bill, which amends the City's sick leave ordinance, will permit employees who are parents of newborn or newly adopted dependent children to use their sick leave for spending time with their children after the child's birth or adoption.

The amendment also permits adoptive parents to use sick leave to cover absences required to satisfy legal or regulatory requirements for the adoption - prior to the adoption of the child.

This is the right thing to do. There are 100,000 children waiting to be adopted in the U.S. We need to support city employees who wish to adopt children. We also need to support employees who've just had children and need to care for them.

This change to the City's sick leave program will become effective in 30 days.

Sincerely,

GREG NICKELS
Mayor